

JUL 2 1981

weight areas will fall within the range of from about 0.2 ounces per square yard to about 9

ounces per square yard depending upon the particular application.

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

1. (Amended) A nonwoven web made from fibers, said nonwoven web having a first end and a second and opposite end, said nonwoven web defining a first area having a first basis weight and a second area having a second basis weight being located on said nonwoven web according to a predetermined pattern, said first basis weight being at least about 1.5 times greater than said second basis weight, said second area being configured to pass liquids, said first area comprising from about 25% to about 75% of said nonwoven web, said first area extending from said first end of said nonwoven web to said second end for providing strength across the web.

2. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web comprises a spunbond web.

3. (Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said first area and said second area form a repeating pattern.

4. (Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 3, wherein said first area and said second area comprise alternating columns.

5. (Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 3, wherein said first area surrounds said second area, said second area comprising discrete shapes.

6. (Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 3, wherein said first area comprises alternating rows and alternating columns.

7. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 2, wherein said fibers comprise polypropylene fibers.

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9. (Not Amended) A ~~nonwoven web~~ as defined in claim 1, wherein said first basis weight and said second basis weight are from about 0.2 ounces per square yard to about 9 ounces per square yard.

10. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said polymeric fibers comprise crimped fibers.

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11. (Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said first area comprises from about 40% to about 60% of said nonwoven web.

12. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said fibers comprise pulp fibers.

13. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said fibers comprise polymeric fibers.

14. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web comprises a meltblown web.

15. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web comprises an air laid web.

16. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 13, wherein said polymeric fibers comprise multicomponent fibers.

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27. (Amended) A nonwoven web comprising extruded polymeric fibers, said nonwoven web having a first end and a second and opposite end, said nonwoven web defining first areas having a first basis weight and second areas having a second basis weight, said first and second areas being located on said web according to a predetermined pattern, said first basis weight being at least 1.5 times greater than said second basis weight, said first basis weight and said second basis weight ranging from about 0.2 ounces per square yard to about 9 ounces per square

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ard, said first areas extending from said first end of said nonwoven web to said second end for providing strength across the web.

28. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said first basis weight is at least 2 times greater than said second basis weight.

29. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said polymeric fibers contain a material selected from the group consisting of polypropylene, polyethylene, polyester, nylon, and combinations thereof.

30. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said polymeric fibers comprise polypropylene.

31. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said polymeric fibers are crimped.

32. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said first areas comprise from about 25% to about 75% of said nonwoven web.

33. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said first areas and said second areas are in alternating columns.

34. (Not Amended) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said web comprises a meltblown web or a spunbond web.

35. (Amended) A laminate comprising:

a first layer comprising a substrate; and

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a nonwoven web adhered to said substrate, said nonwoven web having a first end and a second and opposite end, said nonwoven web comprising pulp fibers or polymeric fibers, said nonwoven web defining first areas having a first basis weight and second areas having a second basis weight located on said nonwoven web according to a predetermined pattern, said

35. first basis weight being greater than said second basis weight, said first basis weight and said second basis weight ranging from about 0.2 ounces per square yard to about 9 ounces per square yard, said first areas extending from said first end of said nonwoven web to said second end for providing strength across the web.

36. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said substrate comprises a meltblown web.

37. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said fibers contained within said nonwoven web comprise polypropylene fibers, and wherein said first areas and said second areas form alternating columns.

38. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said nonwoven web comprises a spunbond web.

39. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 38, further comprising a third layer comprising a nonwoven web, said nonwoven web comprising a spunbond web, said first layer being located in between said second layer and said third layer.

40. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said substrate comprises a polymeric film.

41. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said first layer comprises a nonwoven web.

42. (Not Amended) A diaper incorporating the laminate defined in claim 35.

43. (Not Amended) A wiper product incorporating the laminate defined in claim 35.

44. (Not Amended) A personal care product incorporating the laminate defined in claim 35.

45. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said substrate comprises a meltblown web and said nonwoven web comprises a spunbond web.

46. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 45, wherein said fibers contained within said nonwoven web comprise bicomponent polymeric fibers.

47. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 46, wherein said bicomponent fibers are crimped.

48. (Not Amended) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said first areas of said nonwoven web surround said second areas, said second areas forming discrete shapes.

49. (New) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said first area extends in the machine direction of the web.

50. (New) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein the first area extends in the cross machine direction of the web.

51. (New) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 1, wherein said nonwoven web comprises polymeric fibers, said fibers being thermally bonded together.

52. (New) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 51, wherein said nonwoven web is compressed prior to said fibers being thermally bonded together.

53. (New) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 27, wherein said nonwoven web comprises polymeric fibers, said fibers being thermally bonded together.

54. (New) A nonwoven web as defined in claim 53, wherein said nonwoven web is compressed prior to said fibers being thermally bonded together.

55. (New) A laminate as defined in claim 35, wherein said first areas extend in the machine direction of the nonwoven web.